Warm-up

1 Look at the photos. Which activity do you think the numbers refer to? There is one number you don’t need.

1,200 m  24 m  960  30 km/h

2 Listen and check.

3 Talk about the photos. Use the adjectives.

amazing  cool  crazy  dangerous
fantastic  fun  interesting  scary  strange

Sky diving looks amazing.
I think it looks scary.

4 Watch the video.

Video: Extremes

In this unit, we
• compare people, places and weather
• ask for and give travel information
• write a comparison of three similar places
It’s faster, higher and longer

PortAventura® – Fun for all

Posted by Duncan Lewis, 23 October
Are you adventurous? Do you like fast, exciting rides? Then go to PortAventura!

The Park
PortAventura is a big theme park near Barcelona. It’s got something for everyone: from extreme roller coasters, to safe, quiet rides for children. I also recommend the shows with singing, dancing, and more.

Best Rides
Here are my top three rides:

Furius Baco: a short ride (55 seconds) but really enjoyable! Rating: 9/10
Shambhala: faster and higher than all other roller coasters in Europe! Rating 9/10
Dragon Khan: one of the older rides, but my favourite! Rating 10/10

Location
It’s easy to get there by car or train. You can also fly. Reus airport is very near.

Top Tips
The park can be very crowded in summer and sometimes you wait a long time to get on the rides. The queues are worse during the day. It’s better to go early in the morning or late in the afternoon.

Food and drink are quite expensive, so take some food with you.

Comments
Ed 25 May 13.15
The new rides are scarier and more exciting than the old rides. Shambhala is really high and frightening, but I love it!

Naomi 25 May 12.30
I think that the rides are boring. The shows are better. There are shows with amazing and dangerous acrobatics. In summer, the fireworks are fantastic – and very noisy!

Ruth 25 May 9.00
Tickets aren’t cheap, but children don’t pay full price. There are low prices for groups too. My favourite ride? That’s a difficult question – they are all good. It’s probably Dragon Khan because it’s long and fast.

Jake 24 May 22.45
My favourite ride is surprising. It’s the Tutuki Splash – you ride through a volcano on water. It’s quite slow, but it’s a lot of fun. My brother prefers the shows to the rides.

Vocabulary and Reading

Vocabulary presentation

Vocabulary practice

1 Check the meaning of the words in the box. Then complete the sentences.

queues rides roller coasters shows theme park

1 PortAventura is a … near Barcelona.
2 There are different … , including a train, a submarine and the extreme … .
3 There are … with singing and dancing.
4 The park is popular. There are … during the day.

Unit 4
5 Read the text again and write sentences with the correct adjective. Use the comparative form + than.

- Shambhala is faster than Dragon Khan. (fast / slow)
- 1 Dragon Khan is … Shambhala. (new / old)
- 2 The adult rides are … the children's rides. (big / small)
- 3 Ed thinks that Shambhala is … Dragon Khan. (boring / scary)
- 4 Adult tickets are … children's tickets. (cheap / expensive)
- 5 Jake's brother thinks that the shows are … the rides. (good / bad)

6 Write sentences with the verb be and the comparative form of the adjectives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjective</th>
<th>Comparative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cheap</td>
<td>crowded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enjoyable</td>
<td>frightening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>low</td>
<td>noisy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Listening to music / doing homework

Listening to music is more enjoyable than doing homework.

1 Watching a film at home / going to the cinema
2 A house / a skyscraper
3 In summer the beach / in winter
4 A horror film / a comedy
5 A motorbike / a bike

7 Complete the quiz questions. Use the comparative form of the adjectives below. Then answer the questions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dangerous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>near</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Which is … – Mount Everest or Mount Kilimanjaro?
2 True or false? The River Ebro … the River Danube.
3 Which is … – a cheetah or a falcon?
4 True or false? Snakes are … to humans … mosquitoes.
5 Which planet is … to the sun – Mercury or Venus?

8 Listen and check your answers.

Language in action

9 Compare two people, places or things.

- animals countries free time activities people in your family school subjects vehicles your favourite theme parks

I think geography is easier than science.
Swimming is more relaxing than running.
Vocabulary and Listening

Vocabulary practice

1. Look at the weather in Europe today. Match the weather and the cities.
   - It's wet and windy in Dublin.
   - It's cloudy and cold, but dry.
   - There's heavy rain.
   - It's hot and sunny.
   - There's heavy snow and it's icy.
   - It's foggy.

2. Look at the map again and answer the questions.
   - Which is the wettest city in Europe today?
   - Which is the hottest city?
   - Which is the coldest city?

3. Look at the weather words below. Which are adjectives and which are nouns? Make the adjectives into nouns and the nouns into adjectives.
   - cloudy, cold, foggy, heat, ice, rainy, snow, storm, sunny, wind

Did you know?

It's so cold in Oymyakon that mobile phones don't work.

Listening preparation

4. Listen to the first part of a radio programme.
   The reporter is in a village called Oymyakon. In which country is Oymyakon?

5. Listen to the second part of the programme and choose the correct option.
   - There are about ... people in the village.
     a. 550  b. 55  c. 515
   - In winter, the longest distance that people walk is to ... .
     a. the school or shop  b. the next village  c. the lake
   - When the temperature is minus 50 degrees, the school ... .
     a. freezes  b. closes  c. stays open
   - Today is the ... day in January.
     a. coldest  b. warmest  c. foggiest
   - For the people of Oymyakon, the best season is ... .
     a. summer  b. spring  c. winter
Grammar | Superlative adjectives
--- | ---

### 6 Copy and complete the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjectives</th>
<th>Comparative</th>
<th>Superlative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Short adjectives</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cold</td>
<td>colder</td>
<td>the coldest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hot</td>
<td>hotter</td>
<td>(2) …</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>safe</td>
<td>safer</td>
<td>(3) …</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dry</td>
<td>drier</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Long adjectives</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>popular</td>
<td>more popular</td>
<td>the most popular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>extreme</td>
<td>more extreme</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Irregular adjectives</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>good</td>
<td>better</td>
<td>(5) …</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bad</td>
<td>worse</td>
<td>the worst</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 7 Grammar practice

#### Write the opposite of these sentences by changing the adjective.

In the UK, October to December are usually the driest months.

*In the UK, October to December are usually the wettest months.*

1. My parents’ bedroom is the smallest room in our house.
2. I think, winter is the best season.
3. Lions are one of the safest animals to have as a pet.
4. For me, the weather report is the most exciting programme on TV.
5. I usually work in the library because it’s the noisiest place in the school.

#### Complete the sentences with the superlative form of the adjectives.

- **dangerous / volcano** | **high / city**
- **hot / place** | **scary / tourist attractions**
- **sunny / place** | **wet and dry / towns**

- **The most dangerous volcano** in Italy is Vesuvius.
- … in the world is Death Valley in California with temperatures of 50 degrees and higher.
- … in the world is Yuma, Arizona. The sun shines for 4,000 hours a year.
- … in Spain are both in Extremadura.
- … in the world is La Rinconada in the Andes Mountains in Peru.
- Pulpit Rock in Norway is one of … in the world. Thousands of tourists visit it every year.

### Language in action

#### 9 Read the weather reports for Alice Springs, Trondheim and London. Write sentences to compare the weather in these three places.

- **London** is colder than Alice Springs, but Trondheim is the coldest.

#### 10 Draw a weather chart for your region today. Make comparisons with the three places. Use the comparative and superlative.
Reading and Vocabulary

1 Read and listen to the advertisement. Which trip(s) offer(s) … ?
1 the wettest ride
2 the best views
3 the slowest ride

2 Read the advertisement again. Are the sentences true or false? Correct the false ones.
The helicopter trip is longer than the boat trip.
False. The boat trip is longer than the helicopter trip.
1 The Aero Car takes more people than the helicopter.
2 People get wetter in the Jet Dome than in the Wet Jet boats.
3 The cable car is faster than the boats.
4 There are boat trips on the American and on the Canadian side of the river.
5 The boat trips are not for children shorter than 1 m.

Reading extension

3 How do you say these words in your language?

Learn it!

journey (n) ride (n) trip (n)
Wild, wet and wonderful, our ‘Wet Jet’ boats speed along the river at 60 km per hour. Fun for all ages!

- Bring dry clothes – you get VERY wet!
- Trips are 45 minutes long.
- Children over 110 cm tall only.
- You don’t want to get wet? Take the Jet Dome for a completely dry ride.
- Location: Ontario, Canada, and New York state, USA

Take a slow but exciting ride high above the Niagara River in this historic cable car.

- The Aero Car takes 35 passengers.
- The trip across the river is 1 km long and takes ten minutes.
- Children under five go free.
- Location: Ontario, Canada

Did you know?

The Aero Car is a design by Leonardo Torres Quevedo, (1852–1936), an engineer from Spain.

Language in action

5 Look at the highlighted words in the text and answer the questions.

1 Do you like flying?
2 Is there a school trip this year?
3 Do you use your mobile phone as a camera?
4 Do you use headphones to listen to music?
5 Do you sometimes forget to bring things when you go on holiday?

Vocabulary practice

Look at the highlighted words in the text and answer the questions.

1 Do you like flying?
2 Is there a school trip this year?
3 Do you use your mobile phone as a camera?
4 Do you use headphones to listen to music?
5 Do you sometimes forget to bring things when you go on holiday?

Culture video: The Grand Canyon

Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

1. The Cascada del Cinca is the highest waterfall in Spain.
2. The Aragón runs into the Ebro.
3. The mouth of the Duero is in Spain.

Now go to page 000 to find the answers.
FUNFAIR
WOODSIDE PARK

Friday 17th June to Sunday 19th June

Open every day from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Prices: Adults £8.00. Under 16: £5.00.
Price includes all rides!

AMAZING ROLLER COASTERS!
RIDES FOR CHILDREN!
FOOD AND DRINK!
HALF PRICE ENTRY!
SUNDAY 10 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

FREE FIREWORKS SATURDAY NIGHT!

Next to Woodside Park train and bus station

Buses to Woodside Park
Grange Hill → Woodside Park
Monday to Friday: every 15 minutes from 6:30 a.m.
Saturdays and Sundays: every 30 minutes
Journey time: 40 minutes
Tickets: £2.25 single → £4.00 return ↔
(Sorry! No discounts for children)
Listening

1 Look at the poster quickly and answer true or false.
   1 The funfair is at Woodside Park for two days.
   2 An adult’s ticket is more expensive than a child’s ticket.
   3 There are fireworks on 18th June.
   4 It’s cheaper to go to the fair on Sunday morning.
   5 Buses don’t go to Woodside Park.

2 0.00 Jodie is at the tourist information office in Grange Hill. Listen and answer the questions.
   1 When does she want to go to the fair?
   2 How does she decide to travel?

3 0.00 Listen again and write answers to Jodie’s questions.
   1 What’s the best way to get there?
   2 How long does the journey take?
   3 When’s the next bus?
   4 How much is a ticket? Single: … Return: …

4 WORK IT OUT! Read the information below.
What is the total cost for the journey and entry to the funfair for the three girls?
   • Jodie goes to the funfair with two friends, Natalie and Flora.
   • Jodie and Natalie are 15, and Flora is 17.
   • They go on Sunday morning.
   • They buy return tickets for the bus.

5 0.00 Say the words. Listen and check.

Sounds /j/ and /ʃ/
January  yellow  July  jet  year  yours

Language in action

6 Name these places in your region. What’s the best way to get there? How long does the journey take?
   • the most beautiful beach
   • the most exciting theme park
   • the nearest shopping centre / sports centre
   • the most interesting / historical / unusual place

7 You are in the tourist information office. You want to visit one of the places in exercise 6. Complete the dialogue. Use the functional language box and your own ideas.
   You Excuse me. I’m a tourist here. I want to visit …
   Assistant That’s a nice idea.
   You What’s the … way to get there?
   Assistant The … way to go is by ….
   You How long does the journey …?
   Assistant It … about ….
   You How often do the … leave?
   Assistant They go every … minutes.
   You And … is a ticket?
   Assistant A single is … and a return is ….
   You Thank you.
   Assistant You’re welcome.

Functional language

What’s the best way to get there?
When’s the next train?
How long does the journey take?
It takes about …
How often do the buses / trains leave?
They go every 20 minutes / hour / 2 hours.
How much is a ticket?
Single / Return

8 Now watch episode 4 of the video.
Model text

1 Read the text and match the water parks with photos 1–3.

- Beach Park®, Brazil
- Discovery Cove, Florida
- Tropical Islands, Germany

2 In which paragraph can you find … ?
   1 the best or worst things about each place
   2 the writer’s favourite place
   3 an introduction to the topic

Look at language so and because

3 Look at the highlighted words in the text and complete the rules with so and because.
   1 We use … to give the reason for something.
   2 We use … to talk about the result of something.

4 Complete the sentences.
   1 My favourite season is summer because …
   2 The beach gets very crowded in the afternoon so …
   3 I love swimming so …
   4 I never go to theme parks because …

Vocabulary practice

Writing task

Write a comparison of three places. Choose from these topics. Use so and because.

- cinemas
- cities
- holiday destinations
- local attractions
- shopping centres
- theme parks / water parks

Paragraph 1: Introduce the topic and the three places.
I like going to the cinema because… In my town…

Paragraph 2: Describe and compare the places.
The Odeon is the biggest cinema in my town … The Odeon is better than…

Paragraph 3: Which place is your favourite, and why?
My favourite cinema is … / Most of all, I want to visit …

In the holidays, I always visit water parks because I love swimming. I also like the slides, but I don’t like the queues! I want to visit these three amazing water parks: Tropical Islands in Germany, Discovery Cove in Florida, USA, and Beach Park in Brazil.

Tropical Islands is the biggest indoor water park in the world, but it is very crowded. Discovery Cove is a beautiful outdoor water park. It’s quieter than Tropical Islands and there are some amazing dolphins. Beach Park has got the highest and fastest water slide in the world. It sounds more exciting than Discovery Cove, but it’s also scarier!

Most of all, I want to visit Discovery Cove because it’s the most beautiful. It’s always hot and sunny in Florida, so you can swim outdoors, and there are a lot of things to do.
4.1 Adjectives
boring
cheap
crowded
dangerous
difficult
easy
enjoyable
exciting
expensive
fast
frightening
high
long
low
near
noisy
quiet
safe
short
slow
surprising

4.2 Extra vocabulary
queue (n)
ride (n)
roller coaster (n)
show (n)
theme park (n)
cloud (n)
fog (n)
heat (n)
ice (n)
rainy (adj)
snowy (adj)
storm (n)
stormy (adj)
sun (n)
warm (adj)
weather (n)
wind (n)

4.3 Function language
Asking for travel information
What's the best way to get there?
When's the next train?
How long does the journey take?
It takes about ...
How often do the buses / trains leave?
They go every 20 minutes / hour / two hours.
How much is a ticket?
a single / a return

4.4 Grammar
Comparative and superlative adjectives
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjective</th>
<th>Comparative</th>
<th>Superlative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short adjectives</td>
<td>add -er</td>
<td>add -est</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cheap</td>
<td>cheaper</td>
<td>the cheapest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short adjectives ending in vowel + consonant big</td>
<td>double the final consonant, add -er</td>
<td>double the final consonant, add -est</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short adjectives ending in -e safe</td>
<td>add -r</td>
<td>add -s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>safe</td>
<td>safer</td>
<td>the safest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short adjectives ending in -y cloudy</td>
<td>add -ier</td>
<td>add -iest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cloudy</td>
<td>cloudier</td>
<td>the cloudiest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long adjectives surprising</td>
<td>more + adjective</td>
<td>the most + adjective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>irregular adjectives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>good</td>
<td>better</td>
<td>the best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bad</td>
<td>worse</td>
<td>the worst</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We use than when we compare two people, places or things. The rides are better than the shows.
Unit 4 Review

Reading

1. Complete the text with the correct form of the adjectives in brackets and the weather words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>rain</th>
<th>snow</th>
<th>temperatures</th>
<th>thunderstorms</th>
<th>windy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

What do you know about CHILE?

Chile is the world’s (1) … (long) country – at 4,300 km. Ojos del Salado (about 6,880 m) is (2) … (high) volcano in Chile. Although it is often cold and (3) … , it is (4) … (easy) to climb than some other high places. In winter and sometimes in summer there is (5) … at the top. You can climb the volcano from Argentina, but the route to the top is (6) … (long).

From the top of Ojos del Salado, there is a view of the Atacama desert. It is one of (7) … (dry) places in the world: in some parts of the desert, there is never any (8) … . In winter, there are (9) … . Nights are very cold, but during the day, it becomes (10) … (hot), with (11) … up to 30 degrees Celsius. The Atacama is one of (12) … (popular) places for tourists to visit in Chile.

2. Answer the questions.
   1. How high is Ojos del Salado?
   2. What is the weather often like there?
   3. What can you see from the top of the volcano?
   4. How hot does it get in the Atacama desert?

3. Make sentences using the comparative form.
   1. Winter / cold / summer on the volcano
   2. The Atacama desert / dry / the Kalahari desert
   3. Chile / long / Argentina
   4. Ojos del Salado / high / other volcanoes in Chile

Listening

4. Listen to the weather report.

Match the cities 1 – 7 to the weather A – G.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sydney</th>
<th>Bangkok</th>
<th>Madrid</th>
<th>Paris</th>
<th>London</th>
<th>Toronto</th>
<th>Istanbul</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>G</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Listen again. Are the sentences true or false?
   1. It’s hotter in Sydney than in Bangkok.
   2. It’s drier in London than in Madrid.
   3. It isn’t warm in Istanbul.
   5. The coldest place is Toronto.

Speaking

6. Choose a word from each box. Ask and answer questions using superlative adjectives.

actor beach book film food holiday month school subject season singer sport theme park ride TV show

bad beautiful boring cold dangerous difficult easy fast funny good happy hot interesting old scary slow

What’s the most dangerous sport?
I think the most dangerous sport is climbing.

Writing

7. Choose one of the topics in exercise 6. Write four or five sentences using comparative and superlative adjectives.

The best season, for me, is spring. The flowers are more beautiful in spring. The days are longer and warmer than in winter. The worst season is winter. It’s the coldest time of the year.